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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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CITY AND WALK/BIKE COUNCIL TO ANNOUNCE NEW BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN AMENITIES

Highlights include installation of first ever City-owned “bike lockers” providing secure bike parking Downtown

Burlington, VT – October 25, 2010. Mayor Bob Kiss and the Burlington Walk/Bike Council will host a press conference on **Wednesday, October 27 at 1:30 pm** in the Marketplace parking garage (near the Cherry St. entrance) to introduce the first city-owned bicycle lockers and announce recent developments in the walk and bike-friendly infrastructure of Burlington.

Bike Lockers & Bike Parking Offers New Approach to Bicycle Parking Downtown

Recognizing that safe, secure and easily accessible bicycle parking is an essential need in the downtown area, the City of Burlington has completed the installation of 10 new bicycle lockers in the Marketplace Parking Garage. This is a new approach to bicycle parking for the Department of Public Works, which currently maintains an active sidewalk bicycle parking installation program that currently provides over 120 parking spaces in the downtown area.

The bicycle lockers feature 5 coin-operated lockers – just \$0.25 per use – and 5 key-operated lockers available for 6-month rentals for just \$30. Citywide, **50** new bicycle parking spaces were created this year, including in-street bicycle parking on Cherry St. and on N. Winooski Avenue. Statistics show that people on bikes bring business to the nation’s shopping districts, as well as reducing traffic congestion and emissions.

Sharrows – Shared Lane Pavement Markings

Sharrows were installed on Pine St. last year to support sharing the road. Sharrows are intended to help cyclists better position themselves on roadways and to help educate motorists that bicycle riders and cars share the space. Watch for more sharrows on Burlington streets in the months to come.



Burlington Code of Ordinances Updated for Bicyclists

Burlington City Council recently enacted ordinance changes which will make Burlington's streets and sidewalks safer for bike riders and pedestrians. The changes include:

- bikes ridden at night must now be equipped with a red light in the rear, as well as a white light in the front;
- motor vehicles passing bikes must now leave at least 3 feet of space between their vehicle and the bike;
- in order to ensure that all riders are aware of the rules of the road, bike shops and bike rental businesses must now disseminate safety information to everyone who purchases or rents a bike;
- when riding on the sidewalk (where it is not otherwise prohibited) bikes are now required to yield to pedestrians, give an audible signal before passing a pedestrian, operate at a reasonable speed, and come to a complete stop before crossing a street;
- clarifying language to improve enforcement and understanding, such as it is now illegal to lock a bike to a tree.

These comprehensive updates and changes will make the ordinances easier to understand while providing the Police Department the tools it needs to make Burlington a safer place to ride a bike.

“Countdown” Pedestrian Crossing Signals

Over the past **year**, Public Works has upgraded **20** pedestrian crossing signals to countdown signals. A pedestrian countdown timer is a flashing timer that signals the number of seconds remaining during the pedestrian crossing phase at an intersection. Studies show that they lead to a significant decrease in the number of pedestrian-related collisions. These devices particularly assist disabled or elderly pedestrians, and adults accompanying small children.

www.burlingtonwalkbike.org - The Burlington Walk/Bike Council



**Burlington
Walk | Bike
Council**

The Burlington Walk/Bike Council (BWBC), an all-volunteer advisory council to the City of Burlington, is announcing its new, improved BWBC website: www.burlingtonwalkbike.org. The BWBC works on infrastructure improvements and policy changes for bicycling and walking. The council, which meets once a month, leads advocacy efforts and activities that promote and celebrate walking and biking in Burlington and beyond. Find out more by joining the group's list serv: simply send an email to burlingtonwalkbike@googlegroups.com.

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